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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/418,221	10/14/1999	NAGESH K. MAHANTHAPPA	ONV-043.01(1)	8622
28120	7590	07/15/2003		
ROPS & GRAY LLP ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE BOSTON, MA 02110-2624			EXAMINER	
			BRANNOCK, MICHAEL T	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1646	DATE MAILED: 07/15/2003	
			27	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No. 09/418,221	Applicant(s) Mahanthappa et al.
	Examiner Michael Brannock	Art Unit 1646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED May 16, 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid the abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

THE PERIOD FOR REPLY [check only a) or b)]

a) The period for reply expires 4 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____ . Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

(a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

(b) they raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);

(c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

(d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s):
See attachment to advisory action

4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See attachment to advisory action

6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: 3-6, 18, 19, 22, 26-28, and 40-49

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

8. The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

10. Other: _____

Art Unit: 1646

Attachment to Advisory Action

1. Claims 3-6, 18, 19, 22, 26-28, 40-49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for methods of treating cerebral ischemia, comprising the administration of a mammalian sonic hedgehog polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 12 or 15, or an N-terminal auto-proteolytic fragment thereof, does not reasonably provide enablement for the treatment, prevention, or protection for other neuropathies, nor for the treatment of any neuropathy comprising the administration of polypeptide other than a mammalian sonic hedgehog polypeptide or an N-terminal auto-proteolytic fragment thereof. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to the invention commensurate in scope with these claims, as set forth previously. The specification provides no evidence that any N-terminal fragment other than that corresponding to the N-terminal auto-proteolytic fragment would work as claimed, and neither could such be expected from the vast literature available which demonstrates that it is the N-terminal auto-proteolytic fragment that provides the signal transduction function of the hedgehog proteins. Applicant does not appear to address this aspect of the rejection.

2. The rejection of claims 1, 21, 25-28, 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No: 5789543, is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments.

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Conclusion

No claims are allowable.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Brannock, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (703) 306-5876. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The examiner can also normally be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler, Ph.D., can be reached at (703) 308-6564.

Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 308-4242. Faxed draft or informal communications with the examiner should be directed to (703) 308-0294.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

MB 
July 13, 2003


YVONNE EYLER, PH.D.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600